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## Irrigation

*Appropriation to irrigation works of the grant of the Government of India for village works.*

*293 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government of India grant of 50 lakhs for village works is proposed to be spent on irrigation works;

(*b*) whether in districts of Malabar and South Kanara there are any irrigation schemes ready for immediate execution; and

(*c*) whether in districts where no approved schemes are ready, Government propose to spend the money for any other purpose?

*A.*—(*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the comprehensive three-year programme for an expenditure of Rs. 50 lakhs on works to relieve unemployment among the rural population. No grant was made by the Government of India towards this scheme. The expenditure is to be met from loan funds or balances to the extent available. The entire amount is to be spent on irrigation works. An explanatory note on the scheme was placed before the Legislative Council in connexion with the further demand under Grant VI—Irrigation on 22nd March 1935.

The Government of India gave a grant of Rs. 14 lakhs for expenditure during 1935–36 on schemes of village uplift which include village roads, village water-supply and sanitation, anti-malarial measures, etc., but not irrigation works.

(*b*) The Board of Revenue has reported that there are no suitable irrigation schemes coming within the scope of the comprehensive special programme of 50 lakhs in the Malabar and South Kanara districts.

(*c*) The diversion of any part of the Rs. 50 lakhs to works other than irrigation would be opposed to the spirit and purpose of the special programme as outlined to the Government of India and Secretary of State and would be open to audit objection.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know which are the districts that are taken up under this scheme at present?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"If my recollection is correct, all districts in the Presidency have been given a part of the grant in the present year except Malabar and South Kanara."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to issue a communiqué giving the total amount to be spent for the information of the public?"

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The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I have no objection to give it for this year."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"May I ask the Hon. Member whether he will be pleased to publish not only the amount but also the actual schemes that have been sanctioned for each district?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"That will entail a considerable amount of work. If the hon. Member will only look at the answer given in the appendix on page 230 in reply to question No. 301, he will find that in one district of Nellore alone the number of Public Works Department tanks comes to 29 and it would mean very much work to prepare a list of all such tanks in the Presidency including minor irrigation works."

*User of the waters of the Palar by the Mysore Government in excess of the scale laid down in the agreement.*

* 294 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have finally settled the question as to how much of the Palar water is now being used by the Mysore Government in excess of the amount allowed to them according to the terms of the agreement; and

(*b*) if not, why not?

*A.*—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Because the Mysore Darbar has not yet furnished statistics of the irrigation under the Palar system in Mysore territory.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"May I know for how long this question has been pending settlement?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"Many years, Sir."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"Possibly it is nearly two years since the information has been asked for from the Mysore Darbar and as far as I know no information has been made available to us. May I know what steps the Government took to get the information?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"From my personal knowledge I may say that it is not only two years, but seven years, i.e., from 1928 to 1935. The Madras Government is in correspondence with the Mysore Government, a neighbouring friendly State, and have asked them to be good enough to expedite their answer."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"Will the Government be pleased to address the Government of India to induce the Government of Mysore to send us the necessary statistics?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"We have already addressed the Mysore Government and we have on previous occasions addressed the Government of India."